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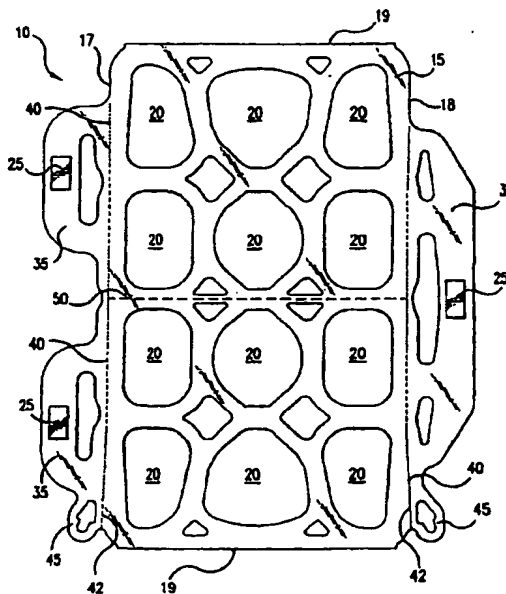
(30) Priority: **24.11.1998 US 198838**

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(54) **Container carrier**

(57) This invention relates to a package (1) of a plurality of containers (5) unitized with a flexible container carrier (10). The carrier (10) is constructed from a plastic planar sheet having a plurality of container receiving openings (20). At least one handle (30) is integrally formed with the sheet and removable along a handle tear line (40). A carrier tear line (50) extends across the sheet and enables the package (1) to be divided into sub-packages (2) depending upon merchandising requirements. One or more handles (30 or 35) are removed along the handle tear line (40), depending on the required configuration of the package. Preferably pack and pricing information (25) is provided on the handles (30, 35) so that the remaining handle on each pack carries the appropriate pricing information (25) for the whole (1) or the divided (2) pack.



**FIG.1**

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 30 9186

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Y	* column 3, line 24 - column 4, line 12; figures 9-13 *	5-8	
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A	* column 3, line 25 - column 4, line 61; figures *	1,3,9,10	
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Y	EP 0 507 479 A (ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS) 7 October 1992 (1992-10-07) * figures 1,3 *	8	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>23 August 2000</b>	Examiner <b>Newell, P</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P4/C01)

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